

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) invite citizens to a public meeting to present the Water Quality Implementation Plan to address fecal coliform bacteria and aquatic life impairments in Blacks Run and Cooks Creek. Both streams are identified as impaired due to high levels of fecal coliform bacteria as well as having a degraded aquatic community due to high levels of sediment and phosphorus. DCR and DEQ seek written and oral comments from interested persons on the plan. The plan is a clean-up strategy that identifies ways to meet the pollution reductions necessary to meet water quality standards. The necessary pollutant reductions are outlined in the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) studies approved by EPA in 2002 and available on DEQ's website at <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/tmdl>.

The final public meeting on the development of the implementation plan for the Blacks Run and Cooks Creek impairments will be held on:

Thursday, March 2, 2006, at 7:00pm

Rockingham County Board of Supervisors Room

Rockingham County Administration Center

20 East Gay Street

Harrisonburg, Virginia

The purpose of the meeting is to present and discuss the draft implementation plan for the fecal coliform and aquatic life impairments. Section 62.1-44.19.7.C of the Code of Virginia requires the development of an implementation plan for approved TMDLs. The plan includes the corrective actions needed to reduce bacteria, sediment and phosphorus and their associated costs, benefits and environmental impacts. The plan also provides measurable goals and a timeline of expected achievement of water quality objectives. A fact sheet on the development of the IP is available upon request. The impaired segments addressed in the plan are:

- Blacks Run: 10.7 miles from the headwaters to the confluence with Cooks Creek
- Cooks Creek: 17.7 miles from the headwater to the confluence with North River

How to comment: The public comment period for this public meeting will end on April 3, 2005.

Oral comments will be accepted and addressed at the public meeting. Additional questions or information requests should be addressed to Jason Ericson. Written comments and inquiries should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the comments and should be sent to:

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